

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 INSE-00 VO-03

SY-05 DEAE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 SSO-00 /034 W

-----311753Z 125585 /46

O P 311620Z JAN 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4862

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SREF

SUBJ: WCRP RESCUE ACTIVITIES

REF: STATE 20568

1. MISSION HAS CONVEYED USG VIEWS PRESENTED REFTEL TO
UNHCR IN AIDE MEMOIRE, JANUARY 31.

2. IN CONVERSATION DURING TRANSMISSION OF AIDE MEMOIRE,
RESPONSIBLE UNHCR OFFICIAL INFORMED MISOFF THAT UNHCR
SAW EYE TO EYE WITH USG ON MATTER, VIEWED WCRP'S ACTIVITIES
WITH CONSIDERABLE CONCERN, AND HAD ALREADY TAKEN SEVERAL
MEASURES TO CURB THEM, AS FOLLOWS:

A. ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, UNHCR PRESENTED NOTE

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VERBALE TO JAPANESE MISSION HERE FOR DELIVERY TO JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT WHICH EXPRESSED ITSM DISMAY OVER WCRP'S
ACTIVITIES IN REGARD TO INDOCHINESE REFUGEES AND ASKED
THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT INTERVENE AS APPROPRIATE
WITH PROFESSOR IISAKA, IDENTIFIED AS THE CHIEF OF THE
RESCUE COMMITTEE OF THE JAPANESE CHAPTER OF WCRP AND
THE INDIVIDUAL WHO MADE THE KEYNOTE SPEECH IN SINGA-

PORE WHICH LED TO WCRP'S INDOCHINESE REFUGEE RESCUE PROGRAM.

B. CONCURRENTLY (FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRAURY 4) UNHCR'S CORRESPONDENT IN JAPAN, PROFESSOR SAITO, WHO IS CURRENTLY IN GENEVA FOR THE CONFERENCE ON TERRITORIAL ASYLUM, TELEPHONED PROFESSOR IISAKA IN TOKYO DIRECTLY TO ADVISE HIM OF THE SERIOUS RESERVATIONS UNHCR HEAD-QUARTERS HAD CONCERNING SCRP'S INTERFERENCE IN THIS FIELD.

C. AT THE SAME TIME, UNHCR'S NEW YORK REP DAYAL, CALLED IN WCRP'S SECRETARY-GENERAL, HOMER JACK, WHO HAS OFFICES AT U.N. PLAZA AS AN NGO REPRESENTATIVE, TO COMMUNICATE THE SAME MESSAGE AND TO SHOW HIM A COPY OF UNHCR CABLE TO ALL ITS POSTS IN THE SOUTHEAST ASIA AREA WARNING THEM OF THE POTENTIAL DANGER OF WCRP'S ACTIVITIES. THE MESSAGE CALLED ATTENTION TO THE POSSIBILITY OF THE WCRP VESSEL BECOMING A "FLY-ING DUTCHMAN" AND TO THE FACT THAT DESPITE ASSURANCES THAT WCRP WOULD CONSULT WITH UNHCR "AT EVERY STEP", NO SUCH CONSULTATIONS HAD OCCURRED. THIS INTERVENTION SO WORRIED JACK, ACCORDING TO UNHCR HERE, THAT HE ENPLANED FOR TOKYO THAT EVENING (FEBRUARY 5) TO TALK PERSONALLY WITH IISAKA. HE IS SCHEDULED TO BE IN SINGAPORE JANUARY 31 TO MEET WITH WCRP'S DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, THE VERERABLE THICH AND HIS DEPUTY, DR. CAU.

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D. UNHCR HEADQUARTERS CABLED SAMPATKUMAR IN KUALA LUMPUR TO PROCEED TO SINGAPORE TO MEET WITH JACK THERE ON THIS SUBJECT. IT HAS ALSO ALERTED ITS ACTING DIRECTOR IN BANGKOK, NICHOLAS MORRIS, TO THE POSSIBILITY OF JACK'S TRAVELING TO BANGKOK FROM SINGAPORE TO STUDY THE PROBLEM ON THE GROUND.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSIES SINGAPORE AND BANGKOK MAY WISH TO ATTEMPT TO COMMUNICATE WITH JACK ON THIS MATTER THROUGH THE LOCAL UNHCR OFFICES.

4. UNHCR WILL RESPOND FORMALLY TO MISSION'S AIDE MEMOIRE AS SOON AS IT HAS RECEIVED REPORTING ON SUBJECT FROM THE FIELD IN REACTION TO THE FOREGOING ACTIVITY.
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